

□ 1100

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS) at 11 a.m.

## PRAYER

The Reverend David Harmon, Big Emory Baptist Church, Harriman, Tennessee, offered the following prayer:

Our Father: I wish I had the vocabulary of angels. I wish, my Father, that I could speak the words of Heaven today to express what I feel in my heart. We thank You so much for our great Nation. We praise You for the wonderful things that You have done for us down through these years.

My Father, our Lord, we need and seek Your face in our Nation and pray that Your kind hand be upon these men and women who represent this great Nation here today.

Soon I am sure that these folks will forget me, but I hope there is never a moment that we forget You, Lord.

My Lord, You know our major needs, so I will not attempt to pray for them specifically. However, I pray that Your will be done in this place today, as it is in Heaven.

My Lord, we indeed seek Your input and guidance in every decision. We also pray that You will bring harmony to our Nation and peace to our world.

Heal our land, heal our people and saturate our hearts with the greatest love and compassion the world could ever know in our Lord Jesus Christ. And it is in His precious and holy name that we pray. Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Wamp led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 one-minutes on each side.

## PROJECT EXILE

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of H.R. 4051, Project Exile, the Safe Streets and Neighborhood Act of 2000. This bill helps make neighborhoods and communities safer by implementing programs that ensure tough prison time for criminals who use guns.

H.R. 4051 will provide financial resources totaling \$100 million over 5 years to help States aggressively enforce their own laws, laws already on the books, laws already there to ensure that gun criminals are held accountable.

Qualifying States can use this money to strengthen their criminal and juvenile justice systems and promote effective and swift prosecution of violent criminals. Project Exile is a proven, common sense approach to fighting gun crime and making our neighborhoods safer. I call upon my colleagues to pass this important legislation so we can exile violent gun criminals to prison to do the hard time they deserve.

## THE INTERNATIONAL ABDUCTION OF REBECCA COLLINS' SON

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the continued problem that is of utmost importance, and that is the abduction of American children to foreign countries. The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) and I introduced legislation with 126 original cosponsors, a testament to the importance of this issue.

Rebecca Collins, a mother from North Carolina, was granted temporary custody of her son while her divorce was pending. In July of 1991, her ex-husband took her son to Germany during a scheduled visitation and the U.S. police filed charges against him.

In August of that year, Rebecca was awarded custody and the immediate return of her son was ordered. Despite the decision, a lower German court transferred custody to the father. Rebecca was granted access rights, but the German court refused to enforce these rights when the father failed to abide by them.

Rebecca's son was 7 months old at the time of the abduction. He is now 8 years old, and she has not seen him at all since the abduction. She spoke with him once on the phone in 1997, but her son has been told that his father's new partner is his natural mother.

Mr. Speaker, American children and their parents should not be kept apart by court systems that refuse to comply with the law. We must make sure that signatory countries of the Hague Convention of the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction abide by their agreement.

## AIR HILLARY

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, in 1991, White House Chief of Staff John Sununu was harshly criticized by the news media for using official aircraft for personal use. There seemed at the time to be a consensus on the part of the news media that despite his position, taking military aircraft on personal trips was inappropriate. But, Mr. Speaker, 9 years later, we have a First Lady whose use of official aircraft to run for political office has already cost the taxpayers more than \$182,000, and the election is still 7 months away.

Chief of Staff Sununu was criticized for using government airplanes for personal use. Is not using government aircraft to run for a political office in a political campaign even more questionable?

Every one of us in this body lives and works under strict ethics rules designed to prevent the misuse of official tax paid resources. Is it not wrong to charge 80 percent of your campaign travel costs to the taxpayer? The First Lady's campaign costs the taxpayer over \$3,700 for every hour she is in the air.

Mr. Speaker, I am amazed that this has gone on so long unquestioned by many in the media.

## 527 CORPORATIONS MUST DISCLOSE THEIR CONTRIBUTORS

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, a 527 is not a bird or some new model of aircraft, but it is the Superman or super weapon of this political season. Operating under section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code, these new political groups can spew out hate over the airwaves and fill our mailboxes with misinformation. These new political groups can take unlimited amounts of money, and they can take unlimited amounts of foreign money. The Iraqis, the Cubans, the Chinese can pour money into these secret Swiss accounts of the political season and use it to spew out more hate over the airwaves.

The favorite feature of those who rely on 527s is that they can hide every bit of any dirty money that they collect. They can keep their sources secret. Unfortunately, the House Republican leadership is so tied to these secret political accounts and so reliant on campaigns of hate that they will finance in the Fall that they are denying this House today the opportunity to require these groups to disclose their contributors. This is wrong, and the House should reject this tactic.